

it became impossible to obtain additional chinch bug eggs with which to continue the work. From July 5 to July 23 only an occasional parasitized egg was found in the field, but beginning with the latter date, parasitized eggs were found in large numbers in the cornfields, and the second generation was obtained by August 10. Up to the present date this year over 275 individual parasites have been bred out. The length of the life cycle has been found to vary from ten to eighteen days, depending on the climatic conditions.

The parasite has been found in every wheat- and cornfield examined around Manhattan. Of 3,101 eggs collected between April 28 and June 10, the average per cent. of parasitism was 20.8, and of 116 eggs collected at Crawford (Central Kansas), 19 eggs, or 16.3, were parasitized.

The work is still under way, and a full description of the parasite, together with notes on its life-history and efficiency, will be published later.

A NEW SPECIES OF PHENGODES FROM CALIFORNIA (COLEOPTERA).

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With regret the writer feels forced to offer the description of the following species in advance of its publication in a monographic revision of the Phengodids now in manuscript, the appearance of which has been delayed far beyond contemplation.

Phengodes bellus, n. sp.

Large, strongly bicoloured. Antennæ (except two basal joints), palpi, elytra and dorsum of last two abdominal segments (except lateral margin) black; wings creamy white; all other parts luteous.

Length 20 mm.; width across humeri 3.8 mm. Habitat, California.

Occiput coarsely strigose; eyes separated above by slightly more than twice the width of one eye as seen from above, below by about one and one-fourth times the width of one eye as seen

from below. Antennæ extending to about third abdominal segment, black, except two basal joints, which are luteous; rami about ten times as long as supporting joint, black with pale hairs. Maxillary palpi black, last three joints subequal (the penultimate slightly shorter), apex of terminal joint very obliquely truncate. Mandibles strong, upper side nearly flat. Under side of head sparsely pubescent, the hairs arising from moderately fine, strigose punctures; gular suture very strong anteriorly, fossa elongate, very narrow, nearly closed. Pronotum half as long as wide, as wide as body at humeri; disc smooth, shining, very minutely punctulate, with small impression before scutellum; sides broadly explanate, the dilated margins each about one-eighth of the entire width, base almost straight, feebly trisinuate; hind angles rounded; side margins straight, very slightly convergent anteriorly; front angles obtuse, broadly rounded; front margin strongly arcuate at middle, nearly straight on each side. Elytra black, one-third longer than width across humeri, feebly bicostate, surface shining, scabrose, punctulate, with fine dark brown pubescence, apices attenuate strongly divergent. Wings creamy white, costa and media brown, other veins pale, a cross-vein between the forks of the cubitus. Abdomen pale, except large black spot on dorsum of last three segments. Legs pale, except tarsi, which are black with dark pubescence, fourth tarsal joint with an elongate, whitish membranous lobe projecting under base of fifth joint; claws with very obtuse tooth at base on inner edge.

Type in the Carnegie Museum. Paratype, No. 16332, U. S. National Museum.

Two specimens collected in June or early July, 1904, by the late Dr. W. Miller, in San Bernardino Co., Cal. (exact locality unknown), and kindly loaned to the writer by Mr. H. G. Klages, who has generously placed the paratype in the U. S. National Collection. This is certainly the handsomest species of the genus known in our fauna. It is distinguished from any other species in the United States by the black elytra and whitish wings. A variety (?) of *P. bipennifera* Corh. is figured in the *Biologia Centrali-Americana* as having black elytra but specimens have not been seen by the writer.